

Tudor Revival (1890-1940)



Historical Origins



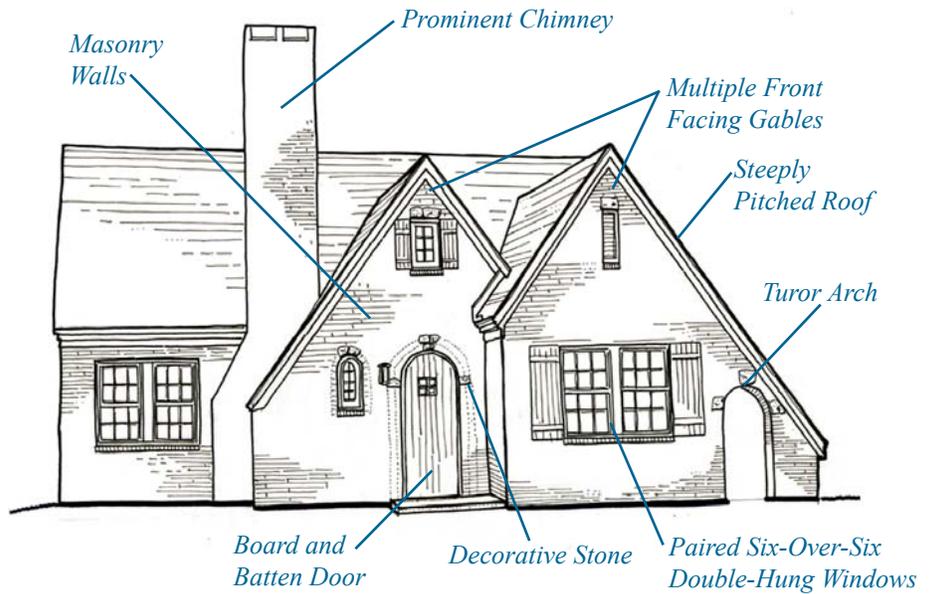
Hotel Roanoke
Photograph Courtesy of the Virginia Room

Arriving at the end of the Gothic movement, the original Tudor style thrived during the reign of the Tudor monarchs: from Henry VII in 1485 until the death of Elizabeth I in 1603. As English carpentry matured, prominent landowners shunned stone Gothic castles for more domesticated homes with brick, timber and stucco facades, and elegant oak-paneled rooms. The revival of the Tudor style was ignited by William Morris, a promoter of the British Arts and Crafts movement, in the late nineteenth century. The Tudor was based on broad reinterpretations of manor houses and folk cottages that dotted the English countryside. After World War I, the Tudor swept across American neighborhoods and was rivaled in popularity by the Colonial Revival.

The Tudor Revival stayed fashionable in Roanoke long after its appeal had been lost in other cities, a fact attributable to the prominence of Hotel Roanoke, whose Tudor Revival roof line and *half-timbering* remains a focal point of the City's skyline. However, following World War II, modernism and the American ranch house came into vogue and supplanted lively eclectic revival styles—such as Tudor—in Roanoke and around the United States.

Essential Elements

- Asymmetrical, irregular *massing*.
- Steeply *pitched* roofs; façade dominated by a chimney and one or more front facing *gables*.
- Stucco, masonry, or masonry-veneer walls.
- Tall, narrow windows, often in multiple groups and with multiple-pane *glazing*.
- Decorative *half-timbering* and stone.
- Heavy board and batten doors.



Massing & Roof Forms



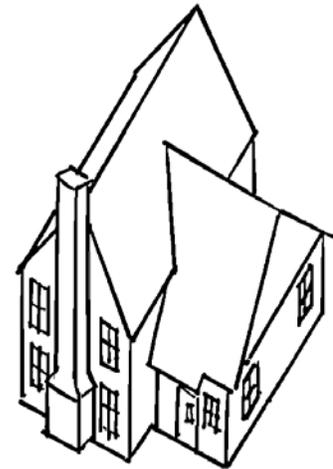
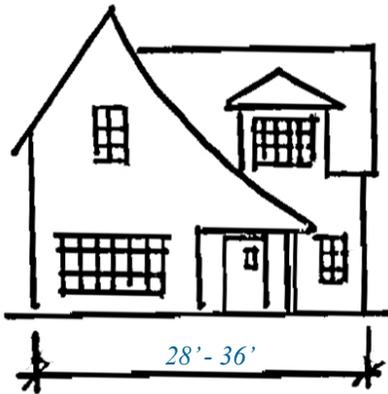
Dormer Window

A Tudor Revival house is one of the more recognizable styles in Roanoke, notable for its asymmetrical layout and high-*pitched* roof, which is often side-*gabled* and complex. Steeply-pitched, front-facing gables dominate an irregular façade.

Two main types of *massing* exist on the Tudor Revival; the basic L-shaped house and the broad front house. The roof of both types is always steep and will vary from 12:12 to 20:12. *Eaves* tend to be shallow with *boxed eaves* ranging from 4 to 10 inches and exposed *rafter tails* being 10 inches. Dormers are often present on these steeply pitched roofs to allow light into upper stories. Chimneys are usually placed prominently on the front or side of a house, sometimes in clusters.

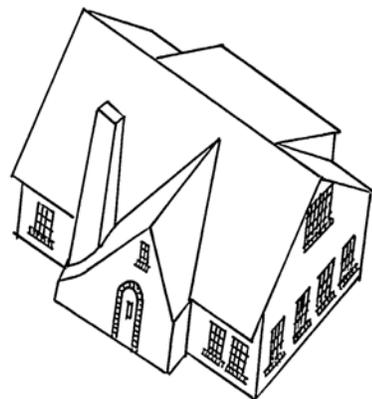
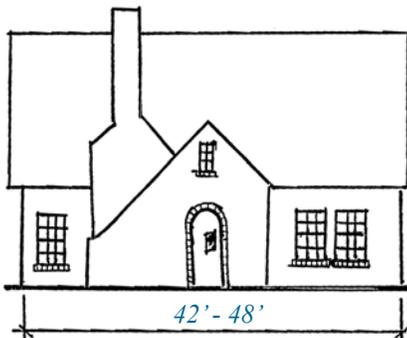
*Various
Tudor Revival
Chimneys*





L-Shaped Massing:

The L-shaped house has a two-story front-facing gable paired with a one-and-one-half story roof parallel to the street. The roof often extends over the entry to provide cover.



Broad Front Massing:

The Broad Front house has a one-and-one-half story side-gabled roof with a one-story covered shelter over the front door.

Note: The presence of an upper-story room that extends out above the lower level or entry is a defining feature of some Tudor Revival houses. When used, this technique shields the lower floor from the elements, and allows construction of larger houses on small lots in dense urban neighborhoods.

Wall Cladding



Patterned Stonework



Light Stucco Offset by Dark Timbers

Tudor Revival façades primarily consist of patterned stonework and/or brick work. Most Tudor Revival houses in Roanoke are wood framed covered with stucco, stone and/or brick veneers. Brick is often used on a first story, while stone, stucco or wood cladding is featured on principal *gables* or upper stories. The use of light stucco is often offset by dark exposed timbers (*half-timbering* and/or a *vergeboard*) in a variety of patterns that appear in gables or elsewhere on the façade. These timbers are rarely used as a structural device on Tudor Revival houses. Its use is nearly always decorative created by a veneer of thin boards and stucco applied to wire

Porches

Most Tudor Revivals omit the front porch, while some will feature a projecting *gable* that encompasses a round arched doorway with brick trim and stone ‘tabs.’ A small *portico* may also be used on more complex designs. A square or round brick stoop with brick steps with a wrought iron railing is common. Tudor Revivals will often feature a side or off-set porch, 8 to 12 feet in depth with a wide elliptical arched opening set under the main roof.



Projecting Gable



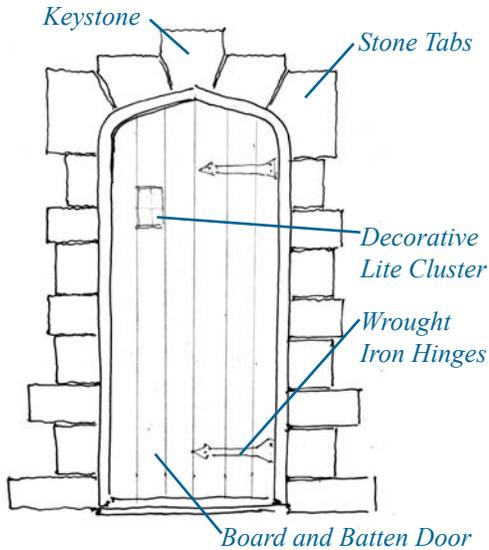
Portico with Wrought Iron Railing



Side Porch

Doors

A heavy board and batten door set in a half-round bricked arch is a common feature in the Tudor Revival. Doorways are often ‘tabbed’ with brick or stone for emphasis and recessed to give the appearance of thick walls. Tall narrow windows will often flank the door opening.



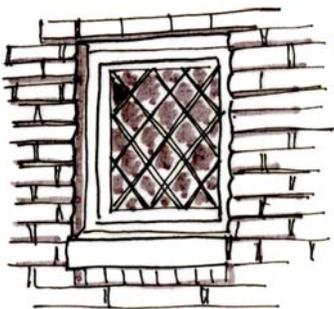
Tall Narrow Windows Flanking Brick ‘Tabbed’ Arched Doorway



Stone ‘Tabbed’ Arched Doorway

Windows

The most common window form is the standard six-over-six *double-hung* window which is often grouped in pairs or triples with brick sills. Double-hung windows with small diamond-shaped panes in the upper *sash* and a single pane in the lower sash are also used. Metal *casement* windows with diamond-paned or square-paned glass are also prevalent. Windows are often recessed to give the appearance of thick walls and are accented by a brick *soldier course* at the head or stone ‘tabs’. Shutters were sometimes used on Tudor Revival houses and feature plank/board or panel-style construction. Shutters are never used where *half-timbering* is present.



Diamond Pane Casement Window



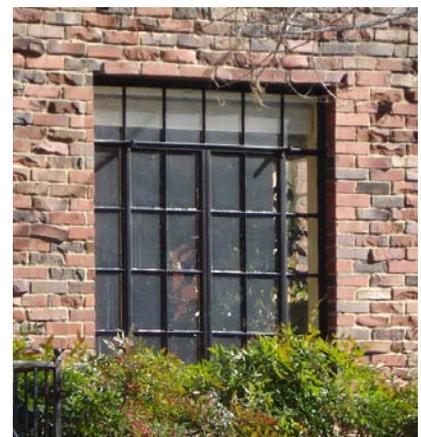
Paired Six Over Six Double-Hung Windows Under a Small Accent Window



Diamond Pane Casement Window

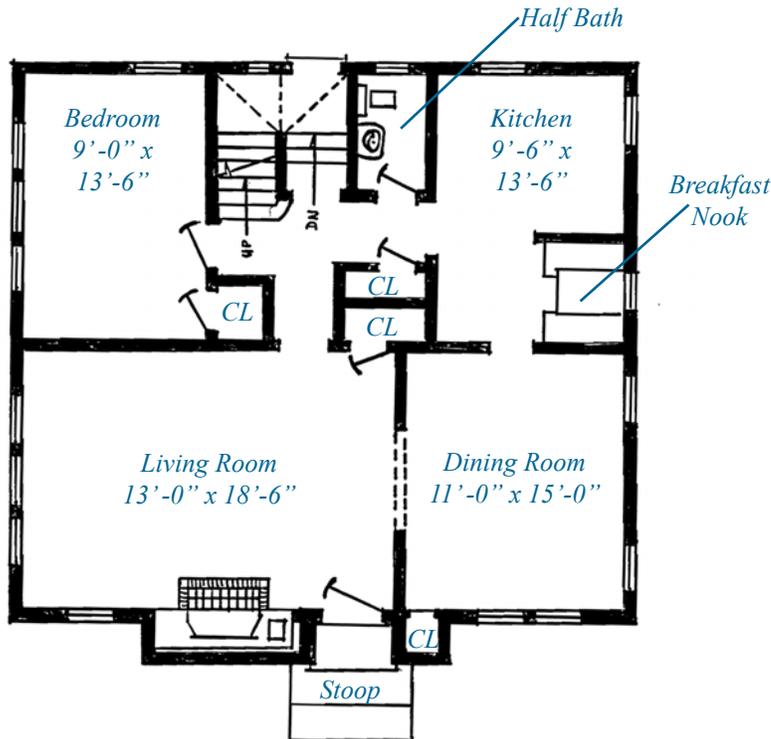


Plank/Board Shutters

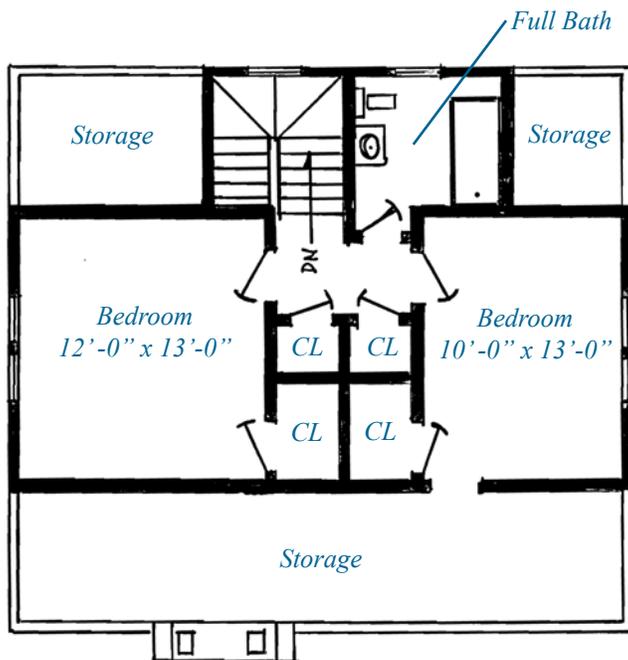


Square Pane Casement Window

Additions



Existing First Floor Plan - Broad Front Tudor Revival



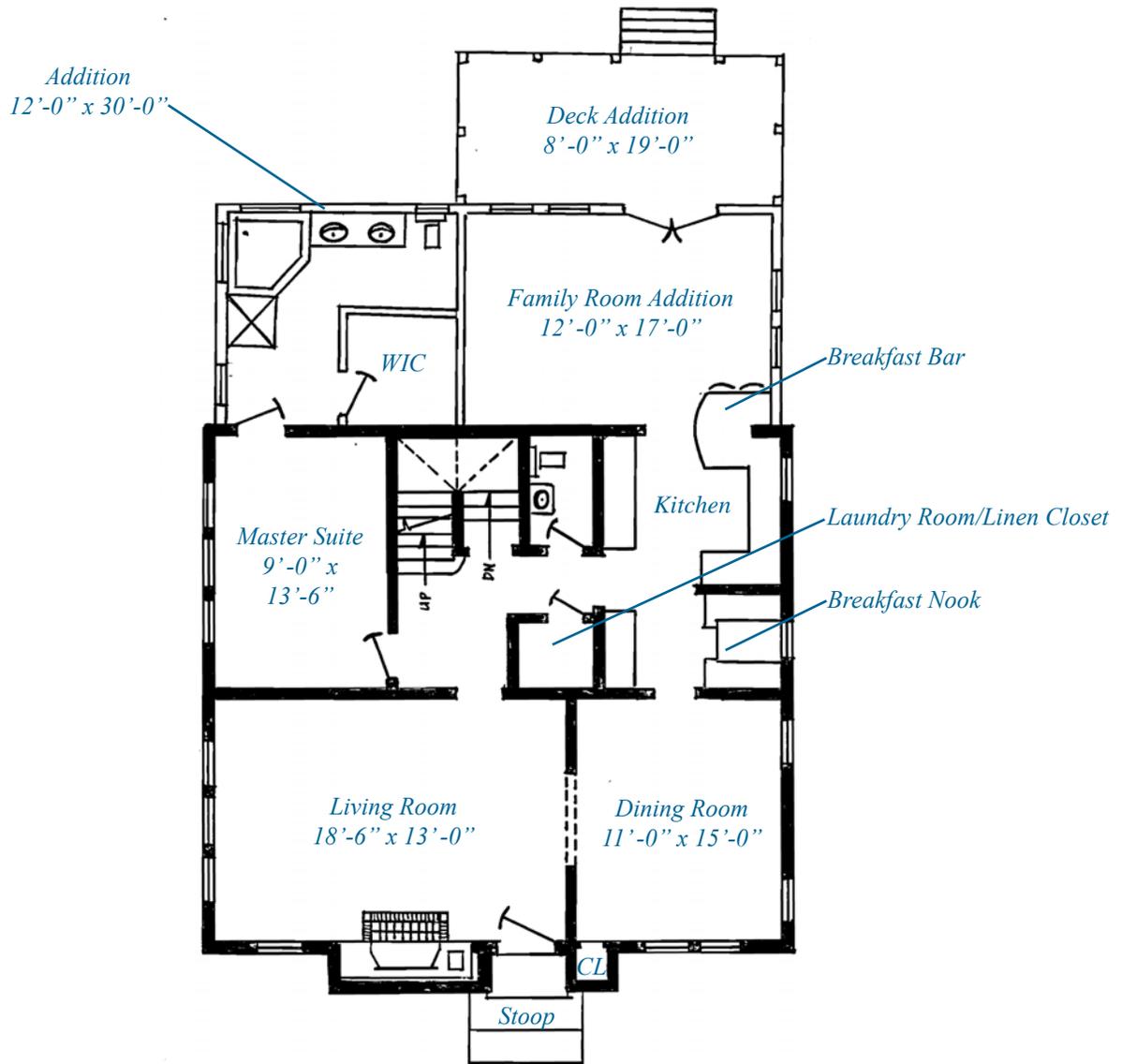
Existing Second Floor Plan - Broad Front Tudor Revival

Additions to Tudor Revival houses should be designed as secondary elements that respect the overall *massing* and scale of the original house. An addition should never be larger or wider than the main residence and should be located to the rear or side. An addition should respect the asymmetry and steeply *pitched* roof lines that are characteristic of Tudor Revival houses. Adding on to a gable end or creating a cross gable are appropriate ways to provide more space while respecting the original form of the building. Window and door patterns and types on an addition should mimic what is found on the main house.

Similar exterior finish materials should be used wherever possible. A list of appropriate materials specific to the Tudor Revival is provided at the end of this section. Additions should be designed and built so that the form and character of the primary residence will remain intact if the addition is ever removed. More information on additions can be found within the New Construction section of this document.

**Finish Basement Space into a Media Room, or a Recreation Room*

**No Modification of Second Floor*

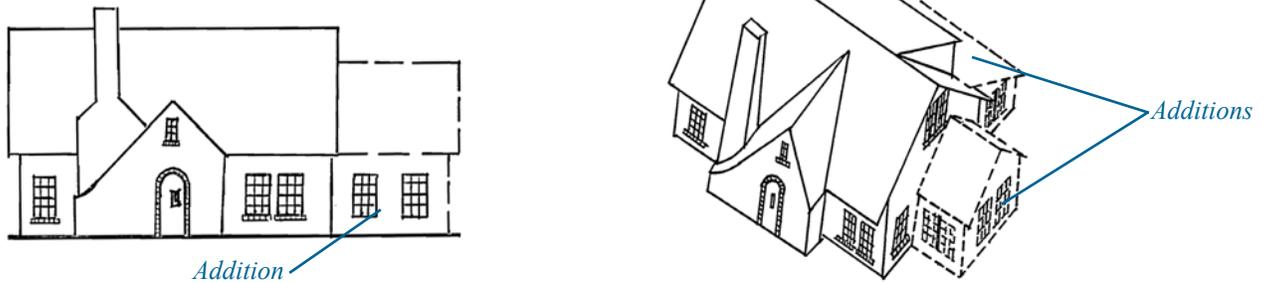


Modified First Floor Plan of a Broad Front Tudor Revival

L-Shaped Addition



Broad Front Addition



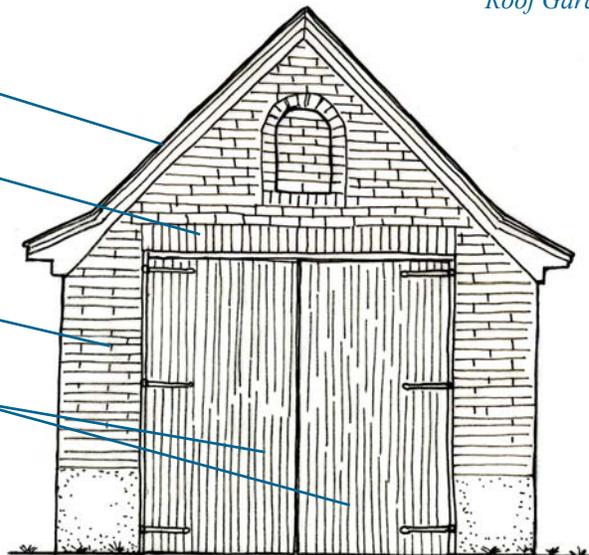
Garages

7:12 to 12:12 Roof Pitch

Brick Soldier Course

Brick Veneer

Double Leaf Door



Two Bay Flat Roof Garage



The Tudor Revival garages were built off the rear corner of the house, often reached by a driveway consisting of two concrete strips. Garages were often brick to match the house and were either one or two **bays** wide with double-leaf or sliding

wood doors. Doors are either solid or have a row of windows to illuminate the interior. The roof **pitch** was usually 7:12 to 12:12. Some Tudor Revival garages, especially with multifamily buildings, featured flat roofs over wide garages with two or more door openings.

Painting a Tudor Revival

Painting a Tudor Revival's accents is very important to get the detail correct. Doors, trim, and *half-timbering* members are accented through the use of a dark brown paint color. Greens are also favorite trim colors, and certain deep reds can accent the doors and trim as well. Stucco walls use lighter earth tones. Unpainted brick should never be painted as it could drastically alter the home's original character and trap moisture inside walls.

Maintenance

Routine cleaning of a house's exterior is a convenient way to conduct regular inspections that also address curb appeal. Maintaining exterior wall finishes is a critical first line of defense against moisture and other environmental hazards. A good cleaning regimen should include simple gutter cleaning and repair as well as seasonal snow removal. Massive chimneys crowned with chimney pots are one of the hallmarks of the Tudor Revival style. It is important to routinely inspect and clean a working masonry chimney. A solid-fuel burning chimney should be inspected annually and cleaned often.

Appropriate Materials



- *Roofs:* Fiberglass shingles (architectural grade), cementitious shingles, slate and faux slate materials, or clay tile with flat or barrel profile as appropriate.
- *Wall Cladding:* Smooth finish wood or fiber-cement boards with a 6 to 8 inch lap exposure, with mitered corners. Smooth finish brick in common *bond*. Stucco with handmade appearance. *Half-timbering* on second floor.
- *Railings:* Wrought or cast iron.
- *Doors:* Wood, fiberglass or steel with traditional stile-and-rail proportions, plank/board and panel profiles, painted or stained; and appropriate metal hardware
- *Windows:* Wood, aluminum-clad wood, or vinyl (vinyl is not allowed in the H-1 or H-2 Historic Districts) with true divided light or *simulated divided light* (SDL) *sash* with traditional exterior *munтин* profile (7/8 inch wide). Metal *casement* windows.
- *Shutters:* Wood or composite, sized to match height of window *sash* and half the window width, mounted to appear operable.
- *Trim:* Wood, composite, or polyurethane millwork, stone, brick or cast-stone.

Gallery of Examples

